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irrigable area into compact blocks. One or other of the following arrangements was made with the ryots concerned in such cases—

- (1) The owners of the excluded wet lands transferred their wet rights to dry lands belonging to themselves or to others which dry lands were suitable for inclusion in the ayacut and were so included; or
- (2) The owners of the excluded wet lands were given an equal area of Government waste lands to be registered as wet in exchange for the wet lands excluded from the ayacut and taken over by the Government; or
- (3) The owners of the excluded wet lands in exchange for the wet rights of the lands excluded were granted Government waste land, registered as wet, to the extent of half the area of the land excluded. Out of 3,654 acres of wet land selected for exclusion, only in the case of 11.61 acres of wet land could no final settlement be made with their owners. Of these 11.61 acres, an extent of 1.51 acres was acquired by the Government and the remaining extent was left as it was.

The Government do not know whether the Pedalanka lands were among those excluded from the ayacut.

(b) The Government have no information.

(c) & (d) It has been decided to test the new shutters for three years before considering any extension of irrigation.

*Exemption of lands in Kistna Eastern delta from inclusion fees.*

\* 711 Q.—MR. A. KALESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received the report mentioned in the answer to my starred question No. 549, answered on 25th March 1927, regarding exemption of lands in Kistna Eastern delta from inclusion fees;

(b) what its contents are and whether the Government will place it on the table of this House; and

(c) what action the Government propose to take to free all those ryots from penal assessments?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The Board's report has not yet been received.

(712 Q.—Please see page 257 infra.)

## Emigration

*Alleged defective arrangements in the ships carrying repatriates from South Africa.*

\* 713 Q.—MR. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state, with reference to question No. 68, answered on 26th January 1927, regarding the defective arrangements in the ships carrying repatriates from South Africa referred to in the report of the Commissioner of Labour for the year 1925-26—

(a) whether any berth arrangements have been made in the above ships;

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(b) what the result of the correspondence between this Government and the Government of India regarding this subject is ; and

(c) whether the correspondence will be placed on the table ?

A.—(a) & (b) The hon. Member is referred to the answer already given to question No. 163.

(c) The Government of India's correspondence cannot be placed on the table.

### Factories

*Prosecutions and fines imposed on factory proprietors every year.*

\* 714 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government will be pleased to give the annual number of prosecutions and the total amount of fines imposed on factory proprietors every year, for the three years ending with 31st March 1927 ;

(b) whether the Government have received complaints that the factory inspectors are systematically teasing small rice-mill owners for trivial omissions such as failure to whitewash walls or to paint door frames, at very short intervals ;

(c) whether they are aware that many of these so-called factories are petty concerns serving a limited area and often working only during harvest-seasons of paddy or groundnuts ;

(d) whether Government will be pleased to investigate the matter and ascertain whether prosecutions under the Factories Act are ordered only for sufficient causes ; and

(e) whether Government have already issued or are contemplating to issue any instructions directing the factory inspectors not to charge small mill-owners for really trivial and petty omissions or lapses on their part ?

A.—(a) The hon. Member is referred to Appendix IV in the annual provincial factory reports for 1924 and 1926 and Appendix III in the report for 1925, which have been placed on the Editors' Table. The reports are for calendar years only.

(b) No.

(c) The Government are aware that there are a number of seasonal factories.

(d) & (e) The Government have no reason to think that prosecutions are launched for insufficient causes or on frivolous grounds.

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ With reference to the answers to clauses (d) and (e), may I ask the hon. the Home Member whether prosecutions are launched for petty so-called offences as not painting door frames and not whitewashing the walls ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ The Government are not aware of the fact. If the hon. Member will bring to my notice any specific instances, I will look into them.”

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—“ Will the hon. the Home Member get the information whether there have been prosecutions for such petty offences ? ”

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—“ Yes.”